



Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

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September 28, 2011

TO: EMS Training Entities

FROM: Greg Natsch, Bureau Chief

SUBJECT: Transition Courses

With the introduction of the National Scope of Practice nationwide, the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians is requiring all NREMT certified providers complete a “state approved” transition course. These transition courses must be completed by March 31, 2015 if NREMT certification expired on March 31, 2011 or March 31, 2016 if NREMT certification expires on March 31, 2012.

This is the perfect opportunity for training in Missouri. In March of 2010, the regulation for licensing of EMS personnel in Missouri, **19 CSR 30-40.342**, was amended to reflect the scope of practice in Missouri for EMT-Basic, Intermediates, and Paramedics.

Because Missouri has been a leader in EMS in the country, there are additions to the National Scope of Practice for Basic and Intermediates, and a restriction on Intermediates in Missouri.

With the development of the Time Critical Diagnosis (TCD) System, it was felt that 12 lead EKG transmission was vital to patient outcome. Acquisition and transmission of 12 lead as added to the scope of practice for Basic EMTs and Intermediates. This does not allow for monitoring of EKG.

Airway devices were another change for Basic and Intermediates. Both levels can now utilize, with proper training, protocols and approval from the medical director, “non-invasive airway devices not intended to be placed in the trachea”. This restricts the usage of endotracheal intubation to the Paramedic level, which has not changed.

In the National Scope of Practice for the Advanced EMT (Intermediate), they are allowed to perform intraosseous infusion on pediatric patients. After discussion, Intraosseous was removed from the Scope of practice of the AEMT/Intermediate in Missouri.

The Basic and Intermediate can still utilize blood glucose analysis with the proper training, protocols and approval from the medical director as well.

There was not a scope of practice adopted for the Paramedic in Missouri. During the development of the regulation, it was felt that adopting the National Scope of Practice, as is, would be lowering the standards in Missouri, “to meet a standard”. Paramedics in Missouri have been performing all skills in the National Scope of Practice and more for years. It was also felt that by adopting the document, we

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would be limiting practice of Paramedics. The medical director is responsible for the scope of practice for Paramedics under their supervision.

The “state approved” transition program must be developed by each training entity following the guidelines listed below:

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| 1. Introduction to the National Scope of Practice | 1 hour in length |
| 2. The Missouri Scope of Practice for the EMT | 1 hour in length |
| 3. The Missouri Scope of Practice for the AEMT/ EMT-I | 1 hour in length |
| 4. The Missouri Paramedic and the National Scope of Practice, a comparison | 1 hour in length |

This can be incorporated into continuing education programs or as a stand-alone offering. After completing this program, a certificate is issued to each participant for submission to the NREMT with their recertification materials, and all records must be kept on files as required by 19CSR30-40.331.

All resource documents for the course are found at <http://health.mo.gov/safety/ems/index.php> There you will find the regulation for licensure and the National Scope of Practice.

If you have any questions you can e-mail me at Greg.Natsch@health.mo.gov or you may call me at (573)751-6347.